

LEGLESS AND ARMLESS.

The Proposition to Increase the Pensions of the Maimed Veterans.

A Split in the Senate Committee on the Subject.

Three Reports to be Made, All at Variance with Each Other.

What Commissioner Dudley has to Say About It—Instructive Figures.

The senate pensions committee have split into three parties on the proposed measure to increase the pensions of soldiers and sailors who lost an arm or a leg in the government service during the war of the rebellion. The majority of the committee, represented by Mr. Slater, are against the proposition. The minority, Messrs. Blair and Mitchell (the chairman), are in favor of the measure and of enlarging its scope so as to increase the pensions of those whose eyesight or hearing has been impaired by reason of service in either of the arms of the service. Mr. Platt is unable to agree with either the majority or minority, and proposes to offer a bill of his own, embodying his individual ideas. Mr. Blair has drawn an elaborate report and bill, which has been concurred in by Mr. Mitchell, of which the following is a synopsis:

The bill provides for a pension of \$12 a month for the loss of one eye, and in case of partial blindness resulting in total disability, not to exceed \$40 a month, and for total loss of hearing \$30 a month, and for loss of hearing less than total, but amounting to disability, an increase in the case of blindness. It also has a general clause that any person who shall have contracted a disability not specified in the law entitled to any disability pension, shall be entitled to an equivalent pension; also that nothing in this bill shall operate to reduce any pension now on the rolls.

THE MINORITY REPORT SAYS

"The highest rates of pension now paid on account of the worst form of disability involving total permanent helplessness, and requiring the habitual attendance of a person, is \$72 per month. The same principle would apply to the equivalent disabilities provided for in the bill. Although the bill does not provide for the increase of any pension beyond \$40 per month, yet a minimum form of disability, to wit, by reason of loss of a hand or foot, is by its terms rated at \$40, which is all allowed for an amputation at the hip or shoulder joint, the most dangerous operations known to surgery, and most nearly successful, resulting, when not fatal, in the severest form of disability short of total helplessness; it cannot be doubted that the passage of this bill would operate only as a logical and inevitable basis, or major premise, for future legislation, increasing correspondingly the rates of pension for all degrees of disability higher than that now rated at \$18 per month.

COMMISSIONER DUDLEY'S STATEMENT.

"A statement prepared by the commissioner of pensions shows that the annual increase of the pension roll, if this bill should become a law, on accounts already allowed, resulting, would be \$3,187,564. Disregarding applications yet to be made, the anticipated increase of the roll on account of cases now pending and likely to be allowed, would be about \$7,500,000. The bill 1410 makes no provision for disabilities affecting sight or hearing, for which, by general consent, very inadequate provision is made by existing law. In recognition of the manifest relative injustice under which these two unfortunate classes have labored, the senate committee on pensions has since passed a bill largely increasing the pension hereafter to be paid to them. We estimate the necessary increase to the roll by reason of the provision made for these two classes, and which apply to the whole system, to be included in bill 1410, at \$12,000,000 per annum, and for injuries to eye and ear increase of pending claims over what would be allowed by existing law \$1,000,000, so that it is a fair estimate of the cost of the bill as it is proposed in house bill 1410 and the subsidiary bill providing for increase for disabilities to sight and hearing that the annual roll would be increased at least \$17,000,000 on account of cases already allowed, and that the applications likely to be favorably adjudicated. Should subsequent legislation carry out the principles involved in bill 1410, this amount would be increased indefinitely, but it may safely be presumed that it would be not less than \$20,000,000. These rates house in the pension laws must remain a component part of our pension system in the future and the increase of the public burden in this direction would become so great and oppressive as probably to result in the total abolition of the whole system or in a wholesale indiscriminate and inequitable reduction. That the minimum for specific disabilities in the future would, by the enactment of house bill 1410 into a law, be practically established at \$40 per month has been substantially admitted by advocates of the bill, and so far as we know is not seriously denied, or if denied no one exercising common discretion in the case would give credence to the denial. The inequalities which it would establish would not fail to rankle in the consciences of those who would relatively suffer injustice by its provisions, and the ordinary sense of fair play existing in the minds of the people at large would require the relative increase of all from a minimum of \$12 to \$40 a month, which would leave all parties interested worse off than they now were. Nor would the evil be lessened; but on the contrary, it would be greatly aggravated by an amendment such as has been proposed to the bill by striking out all increase of the equivalent disabilities, making its benefits applicable only to those who have suffered by amputation of a hand or foot, the arm or leg. This would only increase the number of those who would feel that they had been unjustly dealt with, and in the next congress we should be called upon to complete the justice denied in this. The undersigned have therefore felt that either all legislation should be denied, or that the bill should be amended so as to include all the disabilities which would be fairly commensurate with their sufferings and disabilities; it must be conceded that, with the increasing necessities resulting from failing constitutions and the unavoidable aggravation of their disabilities with growing helplessness and incapacity to exercise their mental faculties, as well as such crippled physical powers as the ravages of war have spared to them, and with their lives shortening as the shadows lengthen, a very substantial increase of their pensions is not only just, but imperative.

AN EXPLOSION IN THE STREETS OF NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—This morning the residents in the vicinity of Fulton and Nassau streets were alarmed by a sudden report, a severe convulsion of the earth, and a shower of debris. Investigation showed that this was due to an explosion of gas which had escaped from the pipes into the tunnel of the steam heating company under the street at that point, and when the workmen were searching for the leak with a light the gas exploded. The street was torn up for the space of about

20 by 10 feet, and the iron man-hole cover at that place shattered to pieces. Four persons, passing at the time, were injured. They are: John Hash, a truck driver, injured in the back and nearly asphyxiated with the escaping gas; Lewis Bear, who was standing on the corner, received injuries to his face; James Clark, oyster-saloon keeper, was slightly injured and shaken up. The most seriously injured was John Schukener, a John street jeweler's clerk, who was passing over the man hole at the time of the explosion, and whose escape from death was almost miraculous. His injuries are severe abrasions and scalds of his face and limbs. He had a parcel of jewelry in his hand at the time, which was scattered all over the street.

A FEW MORE FAILURES.

Business Houses Compelled to Suspend—A Big Crash in New York.

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—The business failures of the last seven days as reported to R. G. Dunn & Co., of the mercantile agency, number 277 as compared with 274 last week. The southern states had 73; the western, 70; middle, 54; New England, 25; Pacific states and territories, 13; Canada, 33, and New York city, 6. The only failure in New York city of importance is that of M. Armstrong & Sons, leather, who have just assigned.

The principal assignments in the country, Stewart & Brothers, woolens, Frankford, Pa.; Hassinger & Brittain, hardware, Philadelphia; J. W. Humphrey and Company, machinery, Bradford, Pa.; and J. Eisenstadt & Co., jewelry, New York. Shriver Brothers, dried fruit, Baltimore, have also suspended.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., Jan. 26.—Messrs. Colton & Co. have made an enforced assignment for the benefit of their creditors. Liabilities, \$46,000; assets consisting solely of stock, is claimed will inventory at from \$55,000 to \$60,000.

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—M. Armstrong & Sons, wholesale leather merchants of No. 19 Ferry street, today made an assignment for the benefit of their creditors. The assets have not as yet been calculated, but they consist of stock, real estate, and securities. The liabilities are said to be about \$400,000. The failure is attributed solely to a long depression in the leather trade.

The assignment as filed shows preferences as follows: Matthew Armstrong, \$14,042; Matthew Armstrong as trustee, \$43,724; Alice E. Watson, \$1,950; Emma Van Winkle, \$3,000; and the Bronx Wool and Leather company, \$10,000.

PORTLAND, ME., Jan. 26.—William F. Studley's extensive dry goods store has been attached by New York parties and investigation is being made into its affairs. Report puts his liabilities at \$50,000.

DYING BY DOZENS.

Terrible Ravages of the Cholera in South America—Political Matters.

PANAMA, Jan. 25.—Minister Partridge was to have left Lima for a conference with Montero at Arequipa, but announces that he will now await the receipt of a letter from Minister Logan. The former is highly incensed at the letter the latter sent to Montero. Mr. Partridge considers it an unwarrantable meddling with his peculiar functions. On Dec. 29 Gen. Barrios tendered his resignation as minister of Guatemala, basing his resignation on the ground of ill-health, and the fact that his services were no longer required. The assembly, however, by a vote of 39 to 5 voted not to accept it.

The government organ of the state of Chiapas, Mexico, publishes a long article on the cholera which has scourged the southern part of the state, and which has not yet disappeared. The general government is implored to render assistance, as the numbers of victims is immense, and misery and want reign supreme wherever the epidemic has raged fiercely. Sanitary cordons were established round the *Tierra Caliente* (the hot region), where this sporadic outbreak of cholera, with great intensity, is now prevailing in cold and temperate regions where not affected. Whole families died in a single night. On some plantations there are only three or four people left alive. Many bodies have been devoured by the dogs, because those who were stricken were at once abandoned. The town of Tuxtla had 8,000 inhabitants, 600 of whom are dead. Of the 6,000 in Tonalá upward of 1,000 are dead. The town of Chiapas suffered most severely, twenty to thirty persons dying daily.

The Newhall House Disaster.

MILWAUKEE, WIS., Jan. 26.—In the inquiry on the Newhall house disaster this morning, Engineer Linehan testified. His statement did not vary from those already published. Ben Tice, the chief clerk, was examined next. He stated that the help employed in the hotel thirty-five were saved out of forty-five. This is a contradiction of a former statement which made the number of employees sixty-seven. It has been learned that the \$100,000 insurance on the Newhall house \$22,000 had expired, leaving only \$78,000 collectable.

Precarious Wilkes-Barre.

WILKES-BARRE, PA., Jan. 26.—The cracking apart of the earth above the cave-in at the Delaware and Hudson company's mine to-night is about the same as when the disaster occurred. The surface is likely to drop foot or more at any time. Should this occur the damage will be greatly increased by the toppling over of houses, which would cause a general wreck. Matters are in a state of precarious uncertainty.

A Call on Dr. Rankin.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, Jan. 26.—The members of the Euclid Avenue Congregational church to-night resolved to extend a call to Dr. Rankin, of your city, at a salary of \$5,000 a year, parsonage rent free, four weeks' vacation annually, and \$500 a year expenses of removal to Cleveland.

The Dead French Artist.

PARIS, Jan. 26.—The remains of Gustave Dore were interred yesterday at the cemetery of Pere La Chaise. Alexander Dumas delivered the oration at the grave.

They Will Go to Prison.

DUBLIN, Jan. 26.—The *Freeman's* journal announced that neither Davitt, Healey or Quinn will consent to give bail. They will consequently go to prison.

TELEGRAPHIC TWISTINGS.

—In the supreme court, New York, yesterday, Judge Barrett was told the injunction obtained by Col. Mapleson, restraining Emma Zuch from singing with any other management.

—George Russell, collector, charged with embezzling about \$2,000 from Sharpless & Son, Philadelphia, was arrested yesterday afternoon at New Woodford, N. J., and brought to Philadelphia.

—S. M. Field, of Newport, Vt., who was arrested for passing counterfeit half dollars, was held in \$5,000 bail. The government witnesses proved that he had passed counterfeit money and that he offered to compromise the case when arrested.

—Edward B. Williams, a note and stock broker, of Philadelphia, having an office on Third street, was arrested this morning upon charges of larceny as baiter and fraudulent representations, preferred by William C. Shaffer. He was held in \$5,000 for a further hearing on Wednesday.

—Application was made yesterday in New York to Judge Barrett in the supreme court to restrain the production at the Windsor theater, by Barrett and Wallace, of the play, "The James Boys, or the Bandit King." The plaintiffs, Laverne and France, are owners of a play bearing a similar title, and claim prior right to it. Decision was reserved.

—At the meeting of the Trunk Line passengers agents yesterday in New York, Edgar Barrett was appointed general inspector of freight, with authority to examine and verify the contents of all packages shipped as west bound freight. This appointment is made because it is claimed that shippers misrepresent contents of packages to avoid the established tariff and classification.

A BREAK FOR BOWEN.

Colorado's Coming Senator for the Long Term—No Change for Windom, Ferry, or Saunders.

ST. PAUL, MINN., Jan. 26.—There was no material change in the balloting for United States senator to-day. Windom received 49; Wilson, 34; Cobb, 16; Dunnell, 10; Hubbard, 8; Kindred, 6; Davis, 5; Strat, 2; Farmer, 3; Start, 2; Wakefield, 2; scattering, 4; total, 143.

STILL SCATTERING IN NEBRASKA.

LINCOLN, Jan. 26.—In the thirty-first ballot for United States senator in the Nebraska legislature to-day Ford received 33, Millard 19, Thayer 15, Saunders 14, Stickle 14, Corvin 14, Manderson 6, Morton 3, Lane 2, and Cronin 2 votes. The rest were scattering.

HON. TOM BOWEN NOMINATED.

DENVER, Jan. 26.—On the third ballot the republican senatorial caucus to-night nominated Hon. T. M. Bowen, of Rio Grande, for United States senator for the long term. No nomination was made for the short term.

FERRY'S VOTE.

DETROIT, MICH., Jan. 26.—The first ballot for United States senator in the joint convention of the legislature to-day resulted as follows: Ferry, 46; Stout, 44; Hannah, 14; Willets, 9; Hanchett, 5, the remainder scattering.

DELAWARE LEGISLATURE.

DOVER, Jan. 26.—In the house this morning Speaker Bates introduced a bill increasing the number of members to thirty and the senate to thirteen. At present each of the three counties in the state has seven members in the house and three in the senate.

A STATE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

YANKEE, D. T., Jan. 26.—The council to-day passed, under suspension of the rules, a joint resolution for the appointment of three members of the council and five members of the house as a committee to prepare for a state constitutional convention for southern Dakota.

A REPUBLICAN GETS THE SEAT.

BOSTON, Jan. 26.—A recount of votes in the seventh Massachusetts district yesterday resulted in Senator J. H. Crowley 4,305 votes and Charles H. Allen, of Lowell, the contestant, 4,330. The former return was 4,334 for Crowley and 4,306 for Allen. This unseats Crowley (dem.) and gives his place to Allen (straight rep.).

ABOLISHING OFFICERS.

HARRISBURG, JAN. 26.—The senate to-day passed the bill abolishing the office of delinquent tax collector of Philadelphia, with an amendment empowering the receiver of taxes to make a list of delinquent taxpayers, and to issue a warrant for their arrest, and to send them to the penitentiary for a term of not less than one year.

A Big Verdict.

WILMINGTON, DEL., Jan. 26.—The case of Anthony Reynolds vs. the New York and Baltimore Transportation Line, ended in the United States circuit court here this evening, with a verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$84,334.29. Counsel for the defendants gave notice of a motion for a new trial. The suit was for \$83,436 damages for acts of the New York and Baltimore Transportation line at various times between 1881 and 1875, in violation of a contract made in 1855, by which the company agreed not to run its steamboats upon routes between New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, and wharves on the Elk Schuylkill, and Susquehanna rivers, in consideration of a sum of money paid to the company's routes between Philadelphia and New York and Baltimore. Suit was brought in the state courts in 1874, and was afterward removed to the United States circuit court. The present suit began Jan. 30 at an adjourned term of the circuit court.

Fatal Affray in Virginia.

PETERSBURG, VA., Jan. 26.—Shortly before midnight last night a probably fatal affray occurred between Capt. W. S. McCamee and Charles Gee, during which the former was cut with a knife, receiving a wound in the left breast, inches deep, and 127 in extent on the head. The injured man's physician pronounces the wounds to be serious. Gee, who was arrested shortly after the difficulty, was this morning brought before the mayor for examination. At the request of counsel for the prisoner, the case was continued until the afternoon. The prisoner was committed to jail. The case attracts considerable attention.

At the examining trial before the mayor this afternoon Gee was committed to bail, the evidence showing that the accused acted in self-defense. The court room was densely packed. The accused was defended by four lawyers.

An Election Officer Punished for Perjury.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Jan. 26.—Michael S. Conidine, an election inspector at the last November election, this morning pleaded guilty before Judge Haro to a charge of perjury, the allegation being that when he took his oath of office he swore that he was not directly or indirectly interested in any bet or wager on the result of the election, which subsequently appeared to be false. His trial attorney said the offense committed was a penal one, but he did not think that this case called for a severe punishment, as he thought that the defendant had acted more through carelessness than anything else. The judge ordered him to pay the fine, and to undergo an imprisonment of three days, and to be barred from the right of suffrage for the period of four years, the term prescribed by the act of assembly.

Expected Astonishing Discoveries.

DUBLIN, Jan. 26.—The twenty-one prisoners arraigned in the police court Saturday on the charge of conspiracy to murder government officers, and who were remanded for a week, will be re-examined to-morrow. The investigation will be held in the Kilmainham court house, as the government fears that the prison van might be attacked if the accused were brought before the police court here. The court house in Kilmainham, which adjoins the jail, is guarded by military. It is reported that astonishing discoveries will be made in regard to the Phoenix park murders, and that the evidence to be given will completely eclipse that given last Saturday.

A Small Boy's Story.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Jan. 26.—About a week ago a small colored boy who applied for lodging at the police station informed the officer in charge that he knew a colored man named Charles Or Alexander Williams, living in this city, who had robbed and set fire to a house in New Brunswick, N. J. The chief of police of New Brunswick was communicated with, and the boy's story found to be true. The house robbed was that of Mr. Merrick, and Williams made his escape by shooting at the officer who attempted to arrest him. He was taken into custody yesterday and was this morning committed to await a requisition from the authorities of New Jersey.

Herr Johann Most and Friends.

PITTSBURGH, JAN. 26.—Herr Johann Most, the noted German socialist, arrived here this morning from Youngstown, Ohio, and was met at the depot by a committee of socialist democrats. The day was spent in visiting places of interest in the city. To-night he was tendered a banquet which was participated in by about 150 of his socialist sympathizers. To-morrow he will speak at Lorain hall.

A Floating Coffin.

VICKSBURG, MISS., Jan. 26.—A metallic case was discovered floating in the river near the wharf to-day. It was brought to land, and was found to contain the body of a man about 15 years old. The body was in good state of preservation. No name was on the case. The body was supposed to be that of some person buried at Lake Providence or Goodrich's landing, La., portions of the contents of both places having been cast into the river. The style of case has been out of use for nearly twenty years, and it is thought the remains have been in the ground fully that long. The body was buried in the city cemetery here.

TOSSED IN THE WAVES.

The Cimbric and the Sultan—Ships Lost, Stranded, and Injured.

LONDON, Jan. 26.—The crew of the Wilson line steamer *Arigo*, which arrived at Hull, state that on the night before the collision between the *Cimbric* and *Sultan* they passed, while on the voyage from London to Bremen, a large mail steamer. They first perceived through the fog her masthead and green lights on the port bow. She was coming at an angle toward them. They immediately starboarded their helm, and so passed clear. They all declare that she was the *Cimbric*, and that she was not sounding her whistle. This occurred three hours before the collision. Another captain of a Wilson line steamer declares that he has seen the engineer of the *Sultan*, who says he was not on duty at the time of the collision. He was on deck, in the afterpart of the vessel, for an hour and a half afterward. He heard no cries. Every person on board the *Sultan* believed that the *Cimbric* got adrift and drifted until she was wrecked.

LONDON, Jan. 26.—A heavy gale prevails to-day, particularly at Southport and Liverpool, causing much damage to the shipping and also to houses. A schooner has been lost with all hands at Yarmouth. At Oldham two persons have been killed and six injured by the gale.

LIVERPOOL, Jan. 26.—The German bark *Star of Hope* at this port, from Wilmington, N. C., was totally wrecked to-day. The crew were saved. The American bark *John Watt*, from New Orleans, and the American ship *W. Weston*, from New York, broke their moorings, and have been considerably damaged through striking a dock wall. The Russian brig *Kilvas*, from Liverpool, bound to Dubuy, is ashore at Forthway.

The signal corps station at Hatteras, N. C., reports as follows to the chief signal officer: The schooner before reported sunk off Ocracoke proves to be the *Eugene*, Capt. Gott, from New York, bound to Charleston, S. C., with guano. The mate reports that the schooner struck a floating wreck when thirty miles off shore, and sunk in ten minutes. The crew of five men and captain reached shore in their own boat. The crew of the schooner are now being taken to the station No. 25. The vessel is owned by E. F. Todd, Calais, Me.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 26.—The steamship *Louisiana*, Capt. Gager, from New York, brought the captain and crew of the *Norwegian* bark *Frederick Scholten*, from Pensacola, Jan. 12, from Havana, with lumber. On Jan. 12, during a strong northwest gale, the bark went ashore on Marquesas shoals and sprang leak. After the masts had been cut away, and the deckload thrown overboard, the bark drifted and drifted until the twenty-fourth. When eighteen miles south of Tortugas all on board were rescued by the *Louisiana*. A heavy sea was running at the time. The bark when abandoned had eight feet of water in the hold, and was filling rapidly.

HAVRE, Jan. 26.—A British steamer in distress showing the signal letters U. W. H. G. was spoken Jan. 12 in latitude 45 north, longitude 25 west.

American Pork in Germany.

The Hon. A. S. Sargent, United States minister to Germany, has made to the State department, under date of Berlin, Jan. 1, an official report with regard to the threatened exclusion from that country of American pork products. Mr. Sargent says: "I have the honor to report that a very strong feeling of opposition has been aroused in Berlin and other German cities, as well as in the manufacturing district generally, against the threatened exclusion of American pork products. Strong protests are being sent into the Bundestag, and committees of merchants and others have visited the capital to protest against the measure. Editorials in leading papers have fully exposed the falsity of the excuses for exclusion. If this were strictly a government of public opinion in the American sense, these general public appeals, backed as they are by solid reasoning upon indisputable facts, would prevail, and the project would be abandoned. But this is far from being the case, and the prospect is stronger that ever that the decree will be issued. I am informed that Mr. Böttcher, the imperial minister of the interior, informed a protesting delegation during the past week that the measure would certainly be adopted. I have sought by all means to oppose the measure, but have lost all opportunity to expose its true character, and to show that the health of American swine is unimpaired, and American swine products are entirely wholesome. I do not think these later propositions are now seriously disputed by people of intelligence. The movement is merely selfishness, and in disregard of the interests of the United States. The only argument which would be effective would be the fear of reprisals. We are inclined to upon any proposition involving our articles deleterious to health, but we can as little submit to the exclusion of our products upon false pretenses, pretenses so obviously false as in this instance."

What Demoralizes Southern Labor.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 26.—The *Times-Democrat's* (Franklin, La.) special says Rozas Ducreux, for the murder of George Lockley, in Cyrenport, in November last, and John Austin, for the murder of Isaac Brown, near Franklin, La., last Christmas, both colored, were to-day sentenced by Judge Goode to be hanged. Albert O'Neal, for the manslaughter of a freeholder on the Avon plantation, some years ago, was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary. O'Neal is a white man, and was recommended by the jury to the mercy of the court. In passing sentence the judge delivered a very impressive address, dwelling forcibly upon the crimes to which frequent crime is attributable, especially among the colored population, namely, unrestrained indulgence in whiskey drinking. He severely reprobated the practice of proprietors of saloons in selling whiskey to laborers on the plantations as being demoralizing to labor and the cause of nearly all crime. The murderers of J. W. Board, near Houma, a few days ago, have proved to be three negroes living near Houma. They have been sent up. Part of Board's money was in their possession.

An Accused Gas Trust Clerk Surrenders.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Jan. 26.—J. Spencer Smith, an ex-receiving clerk of the gas trust, charged on the oath of an employee of the board with the embezzlement of \$19,199, came into Judge Haro's court this morning and surrendered himself. He was fixed at \$5,000. Smith denies all charges that have been made against him and stoutly declares that he can prove his innocence. He is the owner of a printing office and has large contracts for printing from the city.

Bicycle Races.

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—The twenty-five mile bicycle race between John S. Princh, of Boston, and William Woods, the Irish champion, for \$200 a side and the championship, took place to-night at the American institute. It was won by Princh in one hour, thirty-two minutes and twenty seconds.

A Dodge to Get Folk Out of Jail.

NASHVILLE, TENN., Jan. 26.—M. T. Folk's health is rapidly failing since his confinement. A writ of habeas corpus will be applied for to-morrow. The indictment is believed to be defective.

THE VIRGINIA MIDLAND.

The Road Turned Over to the Richmond and West Point Terminal Company—Probable Effect of the Transfer.

SPECIAL DISPATCH.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 26.—The following dispatch was received here to-day from New York: "The Richmond and West Point Terminal company have to-day settled in full with the Virginia Midland railway and have received all the securities carrying the ownership of the Virginia Midland from the former company." A representative of THE REPUBLICAN called upon a gentleman prominently identified with the Virginia Midland and Baltimore and Ohio interest, and obtained from him substantially the following statement in regard to the transfer: "The payment made to-day places the Virginia Midland company under the control of the Richmond and Danville system as they control the Richmond and West Point Terminal company, who were the purchasers. This will, of course, put the directors recently voted in by the Baltimore and Ohio interests, for although they were elected for a year, I believe that under the laws of Virginia the new stockholders can elect a new board of directors."

"Is Baltimore, then," to use a common phrase, "to enter this deal?"

"By no means. The money paid to-day completes a payment of \$4,000,000, which, as I have said, gives the Richmond and Danville system control of the Virginia Midland road, but subject to further mortgages of \$1,635,000. Now of course no company will take a property worth nearly eleven million dollars go to naught, and that is what the Virginia Midland investment will amount to unless the road comes to Baltimore, Washington, or Alexandria. The Richmond and Danville interest have a stretch of road of about 140 miles below Danville, and would like to work the Virginia Midland in that interest, but, as I have said, the latter road is bound to prove an investment which has proved so fruitful it taps Baltimore; and, therefore, I think the benefit which this city will reap from it is only a question of time."

FRANCE AND THE REPUBLIC.

Ducloere will Probably be Beaten—He is Suffering with a Cold—The Ex-Royals.

LONDON, Jan. 26.—The *Times*, in an editorial article, says it seems probable that the Ducloere cabinet will be beaten in the chamber of deputies on Monday. The most remarkable feature of the crisis is the rapidity with which Frenchmen of all conditions have begun to despair of the republic. The discouragement does not yet show itself in the newspaper press, but it is too apparent in private conversation. It would be rash to suppose that republicans are disheartened, therefore the republic is doomed. It is on trial, but it has the strength to survive many mistakes.

PARIS, Jan. 26.—M. Ducloere is suffering from a severe cold, and therefore no cabinet council was held this morning. It is reported that the ministry intend withdrawing their bill against pretenders. The doctors fear that M. Ducloere has pleurisy, and have ordered for him absolute repose. The committee on the ex-royals will present their report to the chamber of deputies to-morrow, and debate on those measures will commence on Monday. A minority of the committee are trying to effect a compromise between the committee and the government.

LONDON, Jan. 26.—A dispatch from Paris says: "M. Ducloere has undergone a cupping operation. The streets in the first, second, and eighth arrondissements, in which are situated the Louvre, the bourse, the bank of France, the Elysee palace, and many other public buildings have been patrolled by small detachments of infantry for several nights past."

PARIS, Jan. 27, 2:30 a. m.—A report which was circulated yesterday to-day that the Count de Chambord had landed at Port Vendres, France, is wholly unfounded.

LONDON, Jan. 27.—The *Times*, in a leading editorial, says the serious indisposition of M. Ducloere occurring at this juncture is only too apt to aggravate the political tension in France.

A dispatch from Paris says Prince Jerome is suffering from want of exercise, and there is talk of his being removed into the country.

LONDON, Jan. 27.—A dispatch from Paris says it is not likely that M. Ducloere will be well enough even by Tuesday to attend the sittings of the chamber of deputies. A reception which was to have been held on Saturday has been countermanded on account of his illness.

Dr. Ricard has been allowed to see Prince Jerome, who is suffering from the close confinement. It is probable that the prince will be permitted to go to the hospital.

Canada and the Mother Country.

EDINBURGH, Jan. 26.—Sir Alexander Galt, high commissioner for Canada, in a speech here to-day referring to the relations of the British colonies to the empire, said it was doubtful whether or not as the colonies increased in material power they would continue to be content with their position of separate heads, was neither necessary or desirable. He suggested the possibility of cementing the whole empire by a scheme of imperial federation.

A Bad Black Minister.

LAURENS, MASS., Jan. 26.—The members of Oliver Baptist church (colored) are considerably exercised over the desertion of his flock by their pastor, James M. Powell, leaving them penniless and in a demoralized condition. According to their statements he has taken a steamer to-day, and the proceeds of a fair held for the benefit of the church.